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REMARKS

In the Final Office Action, Examiner Rampuria rejected pending claims 1-18 on various grounds. The Applicant responds to each rejection as subsequently recited herein, and respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the present application under 37 CFR § 1.116:

A. Examiner Rampuria rejected pending claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-11, 14, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,467,324 to *Houlihan* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,028,556 to *Shiraki*

The Applicant has thoroughly considered Examiner Rampuria's remarks concerning the patentability of claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-11, 14, 17 and 18 over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki*. The Applicant has also thoroughly read *Houlihan* and *Shiraki*. To warrant this 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-11, 14, 17 and 18, all the claim limitations recited in independent claims 1 and 10 must be taught or suggested by the combination of *Houlihan* and *Shiraki*. See, MPEP §2143. The Applicant respectfully traverses this §103(a) rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-11, 14, 17 and 18, because *Houlihan* and *Shiraki* in combination fails to disclose, teach or suggest "wherein said microphone is mounted on said physically-shortened antenna" as recited in independent claim 1, and "a microphone mounted on said physically-shortened electric antenna" as recited in independent claim 10.

As to the traversal, in paragraph 1 of the Non-Final Office Action, Examiner Rampuria correctly recognized the failure of *Houlihan* to disclose, teach or suggest a microphone mounted on a physically-shortened antenna as required by independent claims 1 and 10. Additionally, a proper reading of *Shiraki* reveals that fails to disclose and teaches away from a microphone mounted on a physically-shortened antenna as required by independent claims 1 and 10.

Specifically, as illustrated in FIG. 2, *Shiraki* discloses a physically-shortened antenna 10 helically formed from a linear conductive material to thereby define an air-core. To minimize the size of a cylinder 8 of rod 12, *Shiraki* teaches one end of antenna 10 being connected via lead lines 9 to an electric circuit (not shown) located

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within body 2, and microphone 7 being disposed within the air core of antenna 10. See, *Shiraki* at column 4, line 53, to column 5, line 11. Essentially, *Shiraki* has mounted antenna 10 on microphone 7 as opposed to mounting microphone 7 on antenna 10 as required by independent claims 1 and 12.

The Applicant respectfully asserts that a removal of microphone 7 from the air core of antenna 10 to thereby mount microphone 7 onto antenna 10 would increase the size of cylinder 8. Minimizing the size of cylinder 8 is taught by *Shiraki*. Thus, *Shiraki* teaches away from mounting microphone 7 onto antenna 10.

Withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1 and 10 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 5, 7, and 9 depend from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 2, 5, 7 and 9 include all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claims 2, 5, 7 and 9 are allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 1 being allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 2, 5, 7 and 9 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 11, 14, 17 and 18 depend from independent claim 10. Therefore, dependent claims 11, 14, 17 and 18 include all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 10. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claims 11, 14, 17 and 18 are allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 10 being allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 11, 14, 17 and 18 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* is therefore respectfully requested.

B. Examiner Rampuria rejected pending claims 3 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,467,324 to *Houlihan* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,028,556 to *Shiraki* and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,429,829 B1 to *Hirai* et al.

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Claim 3 depends from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claim 3 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 3 is allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *Hirai* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 1 being allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 3 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *Hirai* is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 12 depends from independent claim 10. Therefore, dependent claim 12 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 10. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 12 is allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *Hirai* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 10 being allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 12 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *Hirai* is therefore respectfully requested.

C. Examiner Rampuria rejected pending claims 4 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,467,324 to *Houlihan* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,028,556 to *Shiraki* and in further view of PCT Publication WO 00/13329 to *Barnard*

Claim 4 depends from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claim 4 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 4 is allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *Barnard* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 1 being allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 4 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *Barnard* is therefore respectfully requested.

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Claim 13 depends from independent claim 10. Therefore, dependent claim 13 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 10. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 13 is allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *Barnard* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 10 being allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 13 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *Barnard* is therefore respectfully requested.

D. Examiner Rampuria rejected pending claims 6, 8 , 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,467,324 to *Houlihan* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,028,556 to *Shiraki* and in further view of Great Britain Patent 2036447 to *McLean*

Claims 6 and 8 depend from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 6 and 8 include all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claims 6 and 8 are allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *McLean* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 1 being allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 6 and 8 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *McLean* is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 15 and 16 depend from independent claim 10. Therefore, dependent claims 15 and 16 include all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 10. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claims 15 and 16 are allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *McLean* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 10 being allowable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 15 and 16 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Houlihan* in view of *Shiraki* and in further view of *McLean* is therefore respectfully requested.

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SUMMARY

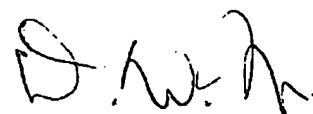
Examiner Rampuria's obviousness rejections of claims 1-18 have been obviated by remarks herein supporting an allowance of claims 1-18 over the art of record. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-18 as listed herein fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 and 112. In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, Examiner Rampuria is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,
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